

SENATE BILL 860

M1

2lr2754

By: **Senator Colburn**

Introduced and read first time: February 3, 2012

Assigned to: Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Critical Area Commission – Buffer Standards – Hydric Soils**

3 FOR the purpose of exempting certain counties with a certain percentage of hydric
4 soils from certain buffer standards; requiring the Critical Area Commission for
5 the Chesapeake and Atlantic Coastal Bays to adopt certain regulations; and
6 generally relating to buffer standards in the Critical Area.

7 BY adding to

8 Article – Natural Resources

9 Section 8–1808.12

10 Annotated Code of Maryland

11 (2007 Replacement Volume and 2011 Supplement)

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Article – Natural Resources**

15 **8–1808.12.**

16 **(A) (1) THE BUFFER STANDARDS UNDER COMAR 27.01.09.01E.(7)**
17 **DO NOT APPLY IN COUNTIES IN WHICH MORE THAN 50% OF THE SOIL CONSISTS**
18 **OF HYDRIC SOILS.**

19 **(2) THE PERCENTAGE OF HYDRIC SOIL IN A COUNTY IS**
20 **EQUIVALENT TO THE AMOUNT OF HYDRIC SOIL STATED FOR THAT COUNTY IN**
21 **THE CURRENT NATIONAL COOPERATIVE SOIL SURVEY BY THE UNITED STATES**
22 **DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, SOIL CONSERVATION SERVICE, IN**
23 **COOPERATION WITH THE MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION.**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



1 **(B) THE COMMISSION SHALL ADOPT REGULATIONS TO IMPLEMENT**
2 **THIS SECTION.**

3 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
4 October 1, 2012.